



Migrant Rescues FY 2000

Border Patrol agents have rescued 1,104 migrants during the first eight months of F'Y 2000 (through June 15, 2000). The following are a few examples of their life-saving efforts:

- May 29, 2000 – Tucson Sector agents rescued a **one-year-old child** and another migrant who were abandoned in the desert after the child's mother became ill. Agents were looking for footprints in the desert area when they encountered a migrant who said he had been part of a group that had been walking for four days when one person fell ill and could no longer travel. The woman, her child, and another person were left behind. The agents immediately began to search for the missing trio, enlisting the help of the migrant to identify the area where they had been left. They were quickly located, but tragically not before the mother died. Agents immediately provided the survivors, including the one-year-old child, with liquids and food.
- May 21, 2000 – Agents from the McAllen Sector rescued **three** migrants who were suffering from severe heat exhaustion after being locked in the trunk of a small car. The smuggler had absconded with the car keys.
- April 18, 2000 – Tucson Sector agents rescued 67 migrants from a confined space inside a trailer. They had been locked in the trailer for several hours, and were suffering from heat exhaustion and dehydration.
- April 17, 2000 – Agents of the Del Rio Sector rescued a total of 28 migrants involved in a motor vehicle accident. When agents first arrived on the scene they observed a group of people running and climbing into a van that was moving in reverse. The agents instructed the driver to stop the van. The driver moved into the passenger seat without taking the vehicle out of reverse. The van continued to roll backward toward the edge of the cliff. Seven or eight people made it out of the van before it rolled backwards over the cliff and crashed below. Agents immediately provided medical assistance. Tragically, three migrants lost their lives in this incident.
- April 10, 2000 – Agents from the Tucson Sector rescued **six** migrants in a remote desert area, including two children. One, a 13-year-old girl showed severe signs of dehydration, and was airlifted to a local hospital. The other, an 11-year-old boy, was treated at the scene.

- 0 April 4, 2000 – Agents from the Yuma Sector rescued **seven** migrants who were stranded in the Imperial Desert without water. At the time of their rescue, the migrants had been drinking their own urine to survive, having run out of water several days earlier.
- January 14, 2000 – El Centro Sector agents rescued a **pregnant woman** who had been abandoned in the desert. Agents apprehended two undocumented migrants who said they had left a pregnant female companion behind in the desert the previous night. A search was launched immediately. After a few hours, an agent located her in the desert, suffering from heat exhaustion. He carried her to his Service vehicle and began transporting her to Interstate 10 where paramedics could provide medical attention. However, before arriving at that location, she went into labor. The agent immediately pulled over, ran to the rear of his Service vehicle, and assisted her in giving birth until paramedics arrived at the scene. Both mother and baby girl were in good health when transported to the hospital by paramedics.
 - January 13, 2000 – Laredo Sector agents rescued **three** migrants who began to founder as were swimming across the Rio Grande toward the United States. After discovering the three subjects struggling to stay afloat, agents immediately jumped into the river, placing their own lives at risk. They pulled the migrants to safety one by one.
 - December 31, 1999 – El Centro Sector agents rescued a **woman with a fractured leg**. After receiving information that a group of migrants had attacked and injured a female migrant while crossing illegally into the U.S., agents began an immediate search of the area. After several hours, the injured woman was located in the desert. Agents applied a wooden splint to prevent further injury to her fractured leg and placed her on a litter. They then carried her on their shoulders, hiking through the mountains for approximately four hours to a location where paramedics could evaluate her condition and then transport her to a local hospital.
 - December 13, 1999 – El Paso Sector agents saved a **migrant who suffered a heart attack while** in custody. After being detained, the subject became incoherent and appeared to be going into cardiac arrest. Agents immediately began CPR, and revived the man several times. Once the victim's heartbeat was stabilized, he was transported to a local hospital. Due to the quick and effective response by these specially trained agents, the migrant survived the heart attack.